

Wilmington Journal

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1876.

The past year has been a fatal one to the few remaining sons of North Carolina who belonged to a past generation, and who have illustrated the proudest pages of her history. The death of Burton Chaton, which occurred in Concord at the residence of his son-in-law, A. B. Young Esq., on Thursday last, leaves a wide gap in the already attenuated ranks of the older generation of our eminent public men.

No son of North Carolina has left a more honorable or a more consistent record, and none whose public services bear a closer inspection, a devotee disciple of the strictest school of State Rights, low course in Congress, in the Secession Convention, during the war, and since its close, was in accordance with those doctrines. His retirement from public life after the war was not more complete than it was agreeable to him. He buried his political aspirations and his public life in the same grave which entombed the great principles of Constitutional liberty and State Sovereignty, of which he had always been an eloquent and a devoted supporter. He did not complain because the Government had placed the solemn ban upon his citizenship and kept it there even to his death. The Constitution he loved, the Government he had served, and the Laws he had obeyed, had been destroyed and a grinning mockery had been set up in their stead. He bore the frowns of the Government with patience, but with fortitude. While he never was heard to murmur, he never abandoned his lifelong principles. When the storm came the people fled, bent before its irresistible force, but the stately oak, its limbs, one by one, severed from the trunk, finally succumbed, torn up ruthlessly by the roots.

BURTON CHATON was born in the county of Rowan on the 13th day of March, 1811, and appears conspicuously in public life to the close of the late war which has crushed the spirits and broken the fortunes of the bravest and strongest. He graduated at Chapel Hill in 1829. In 1832 he was a member from the town of Salisbury to the House of Commons, and in 1834 from the county of Rowan. He commenced life as a lawyer and an editor (editing for some time a paper probably the *Catawba Journal*) and figured prominently and triumphantly in the turbulent times of nullification, being a strong and enthusiastic advocate of Southern and State's rights. In 1836, he was married to Elizabeth, a daughter of Col. James Erwin, of Burke county. In 1841 he was the Democratic candidate for Congress, but was defeated by the Hon. D. M. Barringer. He was elected, however, a few years afterwards and represented his constituents in the National House of Representatives for three consecutive terms, and was a member when North Carolina succeeded. He promptly resigned his seat, and zealously cast his lot with his native State. He was a delegate to the Secession Convention and was the author and introducer of the ordinance of Secession, which dissolved the union between North Carolina and the other States. It was offered as an amendment to an ordinance introduced by Mr. Badger declaring the separation of North Carolina from the United States. We well remember the able debate and the excited meeting attending it, and the still wider excitement which followed the adoption of Mr. CHARGE's ordinance by a vote of seventy-two to forty. The city of Raleigh even then was filled with volunteers awaiting equipment, and the military parade and salute which followed the action of the Convention has never been equaled in this State.

Mr. Chaton served one term in the Confederate Congress, and sustained the Administration in every measure looking to a vigorous and successful prosecution of the war. As we have said, at the close of the struggle he retired to private life, and has on all occasions most perceptively refused every opportunity to again enter the political arena. He was especially urged most strongly to become a candidate for the late Constitutional Convention, in which his great ability and vast experience would have been most valuable, but all appeals were in vain. He had no disposition to don again the armour for political strife, and he passed away, firm to the last in his resolution, but not less endeared on this account to the people of the State.

While we extend our sympathies to his bereaved family we feel that we too have lost a friend in the death of Burton Chaton.

King VICTOR EMANUEL is henceforth to be counted among the sporting gentlemen of Europe. A number of the English race horses have just been bought for the royal stud in Italy, among them Carlton, a brother of the world famous Blar Athol, purchased at a very high price as a stallion. Now that the noblemen of France and England have at different times beat a number of our schools, hotels and theatres with a motley throng of

tournaments" for the year, and in the midst of the most appalling crisis which ever befell a country and impoverished a people, it would be well for each and every one to recall the sage remark of Wilkins Micawber to David Copperfield: "Annual income, twenty pounds; annual expenditure, nineteen, nineteen, six—result, happiness. Annual income, twenty pounds; annual expenditure, nineteen, eight, six—result, misery. The blossom is blighted, the leaf is withered, the god of day goes down upon the dreary scene, and in short, you are forever if or d."

Reduce the pounds to dollars and the statement is pertinent to every household and every individual in our community. In plain English sum debt

and together with their expenses, at their cost, with themselves? They have never failed to disgust with their snobbery every son of royalty or nobility who has come amongst us.

Aspinwall could be found to do the honors of the board, and who while dining from off the plate she lately wished, might aspire to rule the circle with it.

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WASHINGTON LETTER.
THE TEMPORARY ABSENCE OF CONGRESS STREET CAYETTE.

Our Peripatetic President Baptized with Ice Cream—His Jealousy of Ex-Speaking Diana—The Whirlwind of Blame—Incidents, Observations, Etc., Etc.

[From Our Regular Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 31, 1875.

And could they have succeeded to their wish we should not now hear with surprise of negroes and scalawags assembled in a political board room in the city of Boston where some negroes might be in convivial glasses with some gubernatorial aspirant or some impudent blackamoor pledge his ex-judge over the bar. For which case nothing more would be needed than to have Aspinwall could be found to do the honors of the board, and who while dining from off the plate she lately wished, might aspire to rule the circle with it.

Buildings, for a good fire. But it is built of iron and glass, which is not good for fuel, and it is proposed to sell it for a depot (perhaps to Tom Scott for his Texas Pacific) when they are through with it.

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